

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 DRC-01 /103 W

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R 021007Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8455

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD BY POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD PFOR UR US

SUBJ: SOME MAY DAY BOUQUETS GO TO U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONSHIP

1. SUMMARY. SOVIET PRESS COVERAGE OF UNITED STATES OVER MAY DAY HOLIDAY GIVES STRONG EMPHASIS TO FORTHCOMING SUMMIT, TO IMPORTANCE OF U.S.-USSR RELATIONSHIP, AND TO POSITIVE ASPECTS OF EXPANDED BILATERAL TRADE. PLAY GIVEN PRESIDENT'S WATERGATE AND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SPEECHES, SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEPARTURE STATEMENT IN MOSCOW, AND TESTIMONY BY EXIM CHAIRMAN CASEY AND FORMER CHAIRMAN KEARNS IS ALL FOCUSED ON THESE ENDS. END SUMMARY.

2. TASS ACCOUNT OF PRESIDENT'S WATERGATE SPEECH (PRAVDA, MAY 1) NOTES PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO HAND OVER TRANSCRIPTS AND HIS DENIAL OF KNOWLEDGE OF COVER-UP, THEN QUOTES AT LENGTH FOREIGN POLICY PORTION OF SPEECH, INCLUDING REFERENCE TO UPCOMING SUMMIT.

3. PRAVDA NEXT DAY CARRIES TASS ACCOUNT OF PRESIDENT'S CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SPEECH WHICH LEADS WITH HIS OBSERVATION THAT "PROSPECTS FOR ACHIEVEMENT OF PEACE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD SEEM GOOD". ARTICLE ATTRIBUTES FOLLOWING POINTS TO PRESIDENT'S SPEECH; AS PLANNED,
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PREPARATIONS FOR THIRD SUMMIT PROCEED APACE;

PRESIDENT HOPES THAT PROGRESS WILL BE ACHIEVED DURING SUMMIT ON LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC WEAPONS AND ON COOPERATION IN MAY FIELDS IN WHICH TWO DIFFERING SYSTEMS RECOGNIZE, GIVEN THE POWER THAT EXERCISES, THAT THEY MUST ACHIEVE PEACE; U.S. ECONOMY IS GOING THROUGH A DIFFICUT PERIOD (FIRST QUARTER OF '74 REGISTERED DROP IN INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION, ESPECIALLY IN AUTOMOTIVE AND CONSTRUCTION FIELDS); ECONOMY SUFFERED BECAUSE OF ENERGY SHORTAGES BUT WILL GROW STRONGER TOWARD MIDDLE OF YEAR.

4. PRAVDA SAME DAY, IN COVERING TESTIMONY BY CASEY, KEARNS AND DAN GOLDY OF U.S. CHAMBER TO HOUSE INTERNATIONAL TRADE SUBCOMMITTEE, CITES ALL THREE AS PRO-PONENTS OF IMPROVED COMMERCIAL/ECONOMIC TIES WITH USSR. CASEY "POINTED OUT THAT WORLD'S LEADING COMMERCIAL BANKS AND GOVERNMENTAL CREDIT INSTITUTIONS OF MANY COUNTRIES CONSIDER USSR AN ABSOLUTELY RELIABLE PARTNER. THESE COUNTRIES READILY OFFER SOVIET UNION CREDITS WHICH ALREADY MANY TIMES EXCEED TOTAL MADE BY U.S.". ARTICLE QUOTES KEARNS AS CALLING "DEMAGOGIC" THE ARGUMENTS OF OPPONENTS OF NORMALIZATION OF SOVIET-AMERICAN TRADE.

5. LITERATURNAYA GAZETA MAY 1 ADDS TO DETENTE ATMOSPHERE WITH STORY (AND PICTURE) BASED ON SENATOR KENNEDY'S PRE-DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE APRIL 25. ARTICLE HIGHLIGHTS KENNEDY'S REMARKS ABOUT VALUE OF SUMMITS AND IMPORTANCE OF FURTHER IMPROVMENT IN BILATERAL RELATIONS.
DUBS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, TRADE, MAY DAY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOSCOW06529
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740105-0255
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740580/aaaactpd.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 JUN 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <17 JAN 2003 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOME MAY DAY BOUQUETS GO TO U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONSHIP
TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005